



EAC SIMPLIFIED CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN USERS' INSTRUCTION GUIDE FINAL

*A resource for sensitization of cross border traders on the EAC Simplified Certificate of Origin
June 2012*

Supported by:



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1.0 What is EAC Simplified Certificate of Origin?

EAC Simplified Certificate of Origin is a trade facilitation document which is used for clearance of goods that have been grown/produced from the EAC Partner States and whose value is US\$2,000 and below.

2.0 Why is the EAC Simplified Certificate of Origin necessary?

Research findings have shown that bulk of small scale traders, who account for huge EAC cross border trade of products originating from the EAC Partner States transact in consignments of US\$2,000 and below. The traders are unable to meet conditions stipulated in the Single Entry Document.

This meant that even for goods that did not need to attract import duty, they were charged the duty merely because there was no accompanying certificate of origin. This encouraged smuggling.

The simplified certificate of origin has addressed this challenge by simplifying the fields of the Single Entry Document to fields that small traders are able to easily fill and also by being made available at the customs offices at the border stations.

3.0 Benefits of using the EAC Simplified Certificate of Origin

Cross border traders will experience the following benefits by clearing goods using the simplified certificate of origin: -

- No import duty on EAC originating products that appear in the common list
- Saves money that would have been used trying to use unofficial routes (panya routes) in a bid to avoid payment of duty.
- Saves time as a result of simplified customs clearance process where the form is available at the customs border station at no cost.
- Avoids hustles that would have been faced transporting the goods to markets within the EAC Partner States for lack of appropriate documents.
- Increases trade volume as they get orders and meet them because of the ease of customs clearance

4.0 Which products qualify for clearance using the Simplified Certificate of Origin

The products that qualify for clearance through the Simplified Certificate of Origin are the ones which appear in the common list of eligible products. EAC Partner States are in the process of preparing common list for use in all border stations. At the moment, the lists are available for some border stations (e.g Rwanda-Gatuna/Uganda-Katuna).

5.0 How to complete the form

On arrival at the customs offices at the border, request for EAC simplified certificate of origin and refer to the list of the commonly traded products at the border.

Each box on the SCO is identified using a numeral (i.e. 1, 2, 3 etc). The exporter should correctly fill all the information required so as to avoid delays. The instructions on how to complete the form are shown below:

Box 1. Exporter (Names and address)

Fill in the full names and address of the person/company exporting/supplying the product.

Box 2. Importer (Names and address)

Fill in the full names and address of the person/company importing/buying the product.

Box 3. Country of Origin

Fill in the name of the country (member state) where the goods are originating

Box 4. Description of Goods

Fill in the names of the goods being exported/imported. Refer the list of eligible goods for correct description of the goods.

Box 5. No. and type of packages

Fill in the number and kind of package in which the goods are packed. This refers to, for example, boxes, drums, bags, etc. For goods in bulk, the words “in bulk” should be entered.

Box 6. Value

Fill in the value of goods being exported

Box 7. Declaration by Exporter

- Fill in the name of the person or company exporting the product.
- Sign at the space provided for signature
- Give the name of the place where the product is being exported from at the space provided for space.
- Fill in the date when this certificate is filled in at the place provided for the date.
- For companies, stamp the form at the place provided for official stamp.


Box 8. Customs endorsement (Official Use Only)

This box is to be filled by a Customs Officer of the Designated Issuing Authority of the exporting Member State. The Customs Officer will endorse the origin verification stamp in this box. The impression of the stamp should be very clear to avoid raising doubt by authorities of the importing Member State as to its authenticity.

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY SIMPLIFIED CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

(For goods of a value not exceeding US \$ 2000)

(Kwa bidhaa zenye dhamani isiyozi US\$ 2000)

<p>1) Exporter (name, full address, country)</p> <p><i>Msafirishaji (Jina na Anwani)</i></p>	<p>Reference Number</p> <p><i>Kumb Na</i></p> <div data-bbox="1003 638 1260 856"></div>	
<p>2) Importer (Names & address)</p> <p><i>Mwingizaji Bidhaa, (Jina na anuan yakei)</i></p>	<p>3)Country of Origin</p> <p><i>Uthibitisho wa Uasili wa Bidhaa</i></p>	
<p>4)Description of goods</p> <p><i>(Maelezo ya Bidhaa)</i></p>	<p>5)No. and type of packages</p> <p><i>Namba na aina ya kifurushi</i></p>	<p>6)Value</p> <p><i>Thamani</i></p>

<p>7)Declaration by Exporter/Importer</p> <p><i>Tamko la Msafirishaji/Mzalishaji/Mgavi</i></p> <p>I, the undersigned Mr/Mrs/Ms..... declare that the goods described above have been produced (country)in accordance with the EAC Rules of Origin.</p> <p>Signature..... (<i>Saini</i>)</p> <p>Place..... . (<i>Mahali</i>)</p> <p>Date..... . (<i>Tarehe</i>)</p> <p>Official stamp (<i>Mhuri</i>)</p>	<p>8)Customs Endorsement</p> <p><i>(Uthibitisho wa Forodha)</i></p> <p>I, the undersigned, hereby endorse the exporters' declaration and certify that the goods qualify under the EAC Rules of Origin.</p> <p>Signature..... ... (<i>Saini</i>)</p> <p>Place..... (<i>Mahali</i>)</p> <p>Date..... (<i>Tarehe</i>)</p> <p>Official stamp (<i>Mhuri</i>)</p>	